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OCT 29 2007

Utility Patent
Ser. No. 10/033,862**In the Claims**

Please amend the following claims by deleting the language which is enclosed in double brackets "[[]]" or ~~strike through~~ and inserting the language which is underlined "_____".

1. (Currently Amended): A nonabsorbent particle entrapment pad comprising:
a ~~[[preformed,]]~~ bonded high loft, non-absorbent nonwoven top layer, said high loft nonwoven being defined as ~~[[a-chemically-inert]]~~ an open pore matrix or web of fibers attached to a barrier bottom layer; and
~~[[an externally applied, cling enhancing substance charged within said matrix or web]]~~;
wherein said bonded high loft nonwoven top layer is adapted such that the internal pores, and interstices, when receives collected externally applied fine to coarse solid particles~~[[and]]~~ the web of fibers thereby entraps, and retains collected particles, ~~[[and]]~~ said base barrier bottom layer maintains said collected particles within said entrapment pad.
2. (Currently Amended): The pad of claim 1, further comprising ~~[[wherein said chemically]]~~ an externally applied, ~~[[inert]]~~ cling enhancing substance ~~[[is preloaded]]~~ placed or applied within at least a portion of said fibers within said matrix or web ~~[[with reactive particles]]~~,
wherein cling enhancing substance enhances the ability of the matrix fibers to mechanically cling on to the solid particulates.
3. (Currently Amended): The pad of claim 2 wherein said cling enhancing substance place
or applied on the fibers is purposely preloaded with dry solid particles ~~[[are selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent;~~

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

~~superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and odor-counteractive agent]]~~ that are soluble in water, or react with water when wetted.

4. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim ~~[[1]]~~ 3, wherein said ~~[[top layer is treated with a substance]]~~ dry reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and ~~[[odor]]~~ odor-counteractive agent.

5. Cancel

6. Cancel

7. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 1, further comprising a liquid-absorbing middle layer.

8. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is wood pulp.

9. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is a super absorbent polymer.

10. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with baking soda.

11. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 10, further comprising a super absorbent polymer.

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

12. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.
13. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said middle layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
14. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 8, wherein said wood pulp is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
15. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with a cling enhancing substance.
16. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with baking soda.
17. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.
18. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said top layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
19. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad includes a decorative design.

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

20. (Currently amended) The pad of claim 1, wherein said wherein said collected particles are selected from the group comprising: cat litter; workshop debris; dust; and pet food.
21. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a dish-draining mat.
22. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a doormat.
23. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 25, wherein said doormat is a runner.
24. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a car floor mat.
25. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used as a bathroom mat.
26. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used under countertop soap dishes and dispensers.
27. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used to line garbage receptacles.
28. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used to catch excess water and soil under potted plants.

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

29. (Canceled): ~~The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are workshop debris.~~
30. (Canceled): ~~The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are dust.~~
31. (Canceled): ~~The pad of claim 1, wherein said particles are pet food.~~
32. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 7, wherein said pad is used in the vicinity of a pet food or pet water dish.
33. (Previously presented) The pad of claim 4, wherein said baking soda absorbs odors in a refrigerator.
34. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 9, further comprising baking soda, wherein said pad is used to absorb odors and excess moisture.
35. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 7 wherein said middle layer is mostly silica gel.
36. (Cancel)
37. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, further comprising a liquid-absorbing middle layer.

**Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862**

38. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is wood pulp.
39. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is a super absorbent polymer.
40. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 38, wherein said wood pulp is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
41. (Cancel)
42. (Cancel)
43. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with baking soda.
44. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 43, wherein said middle layer is treated with a super absorbent polymer.
45. (Cancel)
46. (Withdrawn): The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with an anti-microbial agent.

**Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862**

47. (Cancel)
48. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 36, wherein said middle layer is treated with an odor-counteractive agent.
49. (Withdrawn) An anti-odor pouch comprising:
a non-woven front layer;
a non-woven back layer attached to said non-woven front layer; and
a middle layer of baking soda layered between said front and back layer.
50. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49 wherein said middle layer includes a non-woven treated with baking soda.
51. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49, wherein said pouch is used to deodorize a refrigerator.
52. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 49, wherein said middle layer further comprises silica gel.
53. (Withdrawn) The anti-odor pouch of claim 52, further comprising a super absorbent

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

polymer.

54. (Withdrawn): The anti-odor pouch of claim 52, wherein said pouch is used to deodorize and dehumidify a refrigerator.
- 55 (Withdrawn) A method of entrapping particles comprising:
layering a high loft non-woven top layer, having an upper end and a lower end, on top of an impervious bottom layer to create a two-layer pad;
attaching said lower end of said top layer to said bottom layer; and
placing said pad, top layer up, upon a surface where particles will fall;
wherein, when said particles fall upon said non-woven top layer said particles become trapped within a matrix of said non-woven top layer;
wherein, fine particles fall to said lower end of said top layer;
wherein, coarse particles are suspended within said matrix; and
wherein, said pad can be easily disposed of without spilling said particles.
- 56 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap litter particles.
- 57 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap carbon particles.
- 58 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap dust particles.

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

- 59 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap soil.
- 60 (Withdrawn) The method of claim 55, wherein said pad is used to entrap food particles.
- 61 (Withdrawn) A method of entrapping particles while absorbing liquid comprising:
layering a high loft non-woven top layer, having an upper end and a lower end, on top of a liquid-absorbing middle layer that is layered upon an impervious bottom layer to create a three-layer pad;
attaching said lower end of said top layer to said middle layer;
attaching said middle layer to said bottom layer; and
placing said pad, top layer up, upon a surface where particles and liquid will fall;
wherein, when said particles fall upon said non-woven top layer said particles become trapped within a matrix of said non-woven top layer;
wherein, fine particles fall to said lower end of said top layer;
wherein, coarse particles are suspended within said matrix;
wherein, when liquid falls upon said non-woven top layer, said liquid passes through said top layer and is absorbed by said middle layer; and
wherein, said pad can be easily disposed of without spilling said particles and said liquid.
62. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein said middle layer includes baking soda.

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

63. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 62 wherein said middle layer includes a super absorbent polymer.
64. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap water.
65. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap urine.
66. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap litter particles.
67. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap food particles.
68. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 61, wherein said pad is used to entrap soil.
69. (Withdrawn) The pad of claim 1, further comprising a means for attaching said pad to another surface.
70. (Previously Present) The pad of claim 2 wherein said cling enhancing substance is a sticky substance.
71. (Previously Presented) A particle entrapment pad comprising:
a high loft, non absorbent nonwoven top layer treated with a cling enhancing substance

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

to receive and trap particles, said high loft nonwoven being defined as a matrix formed of fibers or filaments randomly oriented and fused at intersecting points of said fibers or filaments and secured to an impervious bottom layer to maintain said particles within said entrapment pad, wherein said high loft non-woven top layer receives and entraps particles and said bottom layer is impervious to said particles.

72. (Currently amended) The pad of claim 71 wherein said top layer is treated with a dry particulate substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; superabsorbent polymer; antimicrobial agent; commercially available tacky material; ~~[[Ca^{2+}]]~~; silica; fragrance; calcium carbonate; fragrance; and odor counteractive agent

73. (Cancel)

74. (Cancel)

75. (Currently Amended) A particle entrapment pad comprising:
a high loft, non-woven top layer, said high loft non-woven being defined as a matrix formed of synthetic fibers or filaments randomly oriented and fused at intersecting points of said fibers or filaments, forming an open porous structural web or matrix, capable to receive and trap particles and secured to a bottom layer to maintain said particles within said entrapment pad;

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

said top layer being treated with ~~[[at]]~~ a cling enhancing substance applied or placed within the web; and

said high loft nonwoven top layer is treated with at least one additional dry, solid particulate, agent.

76 (Cancel)

77. (Currently Amended) The pad of claim 75 wherein said cling enhancing substance can contact a particle, entrapping or clinging to it mechanically without forming a chemical reaction or forming chemical bonds between said particle and said cling enhancing substance.

78. (Previously Presented) The pad of Claim 75, wherein said additional dry particulate agent is selected from the group comprising: baking soda; antimicrobial agent; at least one superabsorbent polymer; fragrance; an odor counteractive agent; ~~and a scent or pheromone that causes an animal to urinate or defecate directly on said entrapment pad.~~

79. (Cancel)

80. (Cancel)

81. (Cancel)

82. (Currently Amended) A particle entrapment pad comprising an impervious bottom layer

**Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862**

and a high loft non-woven top layer, wherein said high loft non-woven top layer includes a chemically inert cling enhancing substance within a matrix of said non-woven that is sticky and can cling to dry particulates without entering into a chemical reaction with those particulates and is chemically inert while clinging to the particulates.

83. (Currently Amended) The pad of Claim 82, further comprising:

dry particles preloaded to said ~~[[wherein said inert]]~~ cling enhancing substance ~~[[is capable of being preloaded with reactive particles]]~~.

84. (Previously Presented) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are chemically reactive when ~~[[soluble]]~~ solublized in a liquid.

85. (Original) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are selected from the group comprising: substance selected from the group comprising: baking soda; dry or powdered particulates; anti-microbial agent; superabsorbent polymer; disinfectant; silica gel; antifungal; fragrance; and odor-counteractive agent.

86. Cancel

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**Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862**

90. Cancel

91. (New): An absorbent particle entrapment pad comprising:

a high loft, non-absorbent nonwoven top layer, said high loft nonwoven being defined as an open pore matrix or web of fibers attached to an impervious bottom layer; and

a cling enhancing substance applied to a least a portion of said fibers; and

superabsorbent polymer affixed to said cling enhancing substance;

wherein said superabsorbent polymer clinging to said fibers allow said non-absorbent nonwoven top layer to emulate absorbency when wetted.

92. (New) The pad of claim 2, where the cling enhancing substance is placed or applied within the matrix and the fibers of the bonded, web, highloft matrix so that a Sticky, residue, remains that can mechanically entrap solid particulates that come in contact with the sticky substance.

93. (New) The Cling agent of claim 92 whereby the sticky, tacky, residue remaining on the inert fibers of the matrix mechanically adheres to entering particulates within the web to hold them and does not chemically react with these particulates such as by creating chemical bonds.

94. (New) The cling agent of Claim 92 where the sticky, mechanical entrapment of the entering particulates holds dry particulates of Superabsorbent polymers, Baking Soda,

Utility Patent
Ser. No 10/033,862

Fragrances and odor counteractants, disinfectants., fungicides.

95 (New) The pad of Claim 83, wherein said reactive particles are chemically reactive when exposed to a Gas such as Air